High arsenic level in drinking water

† 1010. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the excess quantity of arsenic has been found in the drinking water in twelve districts of Bihar, three districts of Jharkhand and nine districts of West Bengal, due to which situation of serious diseases has become frightening;

(b) whether it is a fact that in these three States, team of experts in the concerned districts has revealed the presence of arsenic upto 814 microgram per litre, against the maxmimum safe limit of 50 microgram per litre, after the test of the sample; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected from the State Governments.

Rural Development Schemes in the NE Region

1011. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rural Development Ministry is implementing a number of schemes in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, how many such schemes have been taken up in the different States, of North East, particularly Assam;

(c) the State-wise details of funds allocated for different schemes during the last three years to North Eastern States and whether full amount has been utilized; and

(d) what is the progress report in all the States of North East, particularly Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development implements a number of programmes in

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.